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P.T.O.

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 5788.0178

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
John C. SMITH ) Group Art Unit: Not assigned  
Application No.: 10/023,713 ) Examiner: Not assigned  
Filed: December 21, 2001 )  
For: REINFORCED TIGHT-BUFFERED )  
OPTICAL FIBER AND CABLES )  
MADE WITH SAME )

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Copies of the documents listed on the PTO 1449 form are attached. This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the

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right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 21, 2002

By: 

R. Bruce Bower  
Reg. No. 37,099

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